

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA

220 East Rosser Avenue, Room 411

P.O. Box 670

Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-0670

DANIEL L. HOVLAND

Chief Judge

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On behalf of the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota, I would like to welcome you to our court as you begin your jury service. I have three short messages for you.

First, thank you for serving as a juror. We know that jury service places a big burden on you, your family, and your business, farm, or employer. That said, because the Constitution requires that we use grand juries to decide whether someone should be charged with a federal crime, and because the Constitution also requires that we empanel juries to decide most civil and criminal trials, we simply could not do our work without you. Therefore, we are truly grateful that you have agreed to help us in this important work. As a juror, you play a significant role in ensuring that justice is carried out fairly and impartially in the District of North Dakota.

Second, we want your experience with us to be positive. Therefore, I make the following personal promises to you: You will be treated with dignity and respect. We will try hard to respect your time. If you have questions or concerns, we will go out of our way to address them. We will always be friendly and helpful. If you think any of these promises are broken, I encourage you to come see me, call me, or send me a letter or a fax. My address is on the top of this message.

Third, relax and try to enjoy the experience. Many former jurors tell us that jury service turned out to be a wonderful experience. If you approach your task as a juror with this frame of mind, jury service will not be as bad as you may fear. It may even be an interesting and rewarding experience.

Again, thank you for your service.

Daniel L. Hovland

Chief United States District Judge